WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for booting via a selected bootable image on a remote client on a network, the method comprising:

selecting the bootable image for the remote client;

generating a wake-on-LAN packet with a partition identification, the partition identification being associated with a location of the bootable image, wherein the location is accessible by the remote client; and

transmitting the wake-on-LAN packet to the remote client to wake up the remote client and to instruct a pre-boot application of the remote client to boot via the bootable image.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein selecting the bootable image comprises selecting the bootable image from a drive, the drive being internal to the remote client.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein selecting the bootable image comprises selecting the bootable image from a secure resource of the remote client.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein selecting the bootable image from the secure resource comprises selecting the bootable image from a hidden partition associated with the remote client.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein selecting the bootable image comprises selecting a representation of a bootable image, the representation to be associated with the bootable image by the remote client.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein generating the wake-on-LAN packet comprises extending the wake-on-LAN packet with the partition identification.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein generating the wake-on-LAN packet comprises generating a parameter to associate with the partition identification to provide a post-boot instruction to the remote client.

8. A service for booting via a selected bootable image on a remote client on a network, the service comprising:

selecting the bootable image for the remote client;

generating a wake-on-LAN packet with a partition identification, the partition identification being associated with a location of the bootable image, wherein the location is accessible by the remote client; and

transmitting the wake-on-LAN packet to the remote client to wake up the remote client and to instruct a pre-boot application of the remote client to boot via the bootable image.

9. The service of claim 8, wherein selecting the bootable image comprises selecting the bootable image from a secure resource of the remote client.

10. The service of claim 8, wherein generating the wake-on-LAN packet comprises incorporating the partition identification into the wake-on-LAN packet.

11. The service of claim 8, wherein generating the wake-on-LAN packet comprises generating a parameter to associate with the partition identification to provide a post-boot instruction to the remote client.

12. The service of claim 8, wherein transmitting comprises broadcasting the wake-on-LAN packet to the remote client and at least one other remote client.

13. A data processing system for booting via a selected bootable image on a remote client on a network, the system comprising:

a server computer system in communication with at least one client computer system, the server computer system comprising a processor capable of selecting the bootable image for the remote client;

wherein the server computer system is capable of generating a wake-on-LAN packet with a partition identification, the partition identification being associated with a location of the bootable image, wherein the location is accessible by the remote client;

wherein the server computer system is capable of transmitting the wake-on-LAN packet to the remote client to wake up the remote client and to instruct a pre-boot application of the remote client to boot via the bootable image; and

a database, the database comprising an indication of one or more clients and the status of their wake-on-LAN functionality.

14. The data processing system of claim 13, further comprising an Ethernet network coupled to the server computer system and the at least one client computer system.

15. A machine-accessible medium containing instructions, which when executed by a machine, cause said machine to perform operations, comprising:

selecting a bootable image for a remote client;

generating a wake-on-LAN packet with a partition identification, the partition identification being associated with a location of the bootable image, wherein the location is accessible by the remote client; and

transmitting the wake-on-LAN packet to the remote client to wake up the remote client and to instruct a pre-boot application of the remote client to boot via the bootable image.

16. The machine-accessible medium of claim 15, wherein selecting the bootable image comprises selecting the bootable image from a secure resource of the remote client.

17. The machine-accessible medium of claim 15, wherein generating the wake-on-LAN packet comprises extending the wake-on-LAN packet with the partition identification.

18. The machine-accessible medium of claim 15, wherein transmitting comprises broadcasting the wake-on-LAN packet to the remote client and at least one other remote client.

19. A computer-readable medium containing a data structure for use by data processing system on a network, the data structure comprising:

an indication of an address of a server computer system;

an indication of an address for a client computer system;

a synchronization stream; and

an indication of a bootable image accessible by the client computer system to instruct a pre-boot application of the client computer system to boot via the bootable image.

20. An apparatus for booting via a bootable image selected by a remote server on a network, the apparatus comprising:

a packet parser to identify a partition identification associated with the bootable image in a wake-on-LAN packet, the partition identification being associated with a location of the bootable image; and

partition identification logic coupled with the packet parser to store the partition identification in a memory location, the memory location to maintain the partition identification to instruct the boot manager to boot via the bootable image.

21. The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising pre-boot logic to scan the memory location to determine the presence of the partition identification and to instruct a boot manager to boot via the bootable image in response to the presence of the partition identification.

22. The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising a packet authenticator to authenticate the wake-on-LAN packet.

23. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the packet authenticator is designed to decrypt the wake-on-LAN packet with a private key.

24. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the packet parser is configured to parse the wake-on-LAN packet to identify the partition identification.

25. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the packet parser is configured to identify an extension attached to the wake-on-LAN packet as the partition identification.

26. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the partition identification logic is configured to store the partition identification in non-volatile memory.

27. A method for booting via a bootable image selected by a remote server on a network, the method comprising:

identifying a partition identification associated with the bootable image in a wake-on-LAN packet, the partition identification being associated with a location of the bootable image;

storing the partition identification in a memory location, the memory location to maintain the partition identification to instruct the boot manager to boot via the bootable image;

scanning the memory location to determine the presence of the partition identification; and

booting via the bootable image in response to the presence of the partition identification.

28. The method of claim 27, further comprising authenticating the wake-on-LAN packet.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein authenticating the wake-on-LAN packet comprises decrypting the wake-on-LAN packet with a private key.

30. The method of claim 27, wherein identifying the partition identification comprises parsing the wake-on-LAN packet to identify the partition identification.

31. The method of claim 27, wherein identifying the partition identification comprises identifying an extension attached to the wake-on-LAN packet as the partition identification.

32. The method of claim 27, wherein storing comprises storing the partition identification in non-volatile memory.

33. The method of claim 27, wherein booting comprises loading the bootable image from a PARTIES partition.

34. The method of claim 27, wherein booting comprises identifying a parameter associated with the partition identification as a post-boot instruction.

35. A machine-accessible medium containing instructions, which when executed by a machine, cause said machine to perform operations, comprising:

identifying a partition identification associated with a bootable image in a wake-on-LAN packet, the partition identification being associated with a location of the bootable image;

storing the partition identification in a memory location, the memory location to maintain the partition identification to instruct the boot manager to boot via the bootable image;

scanning the memory location to determine the presence of the partition identification; and

booting via the bootable image in response to the presence of the partition identification.

36. The machine-accessible medium of claim 35, wherein the operations further comprise authenticating the wake-on-LAN packet.

37. The machine-accessible medium of claim 35, wherein booting comprises loading the bootable image from a hidden partition.